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Typed Name:

Kevin J. McCarthy

Date:

August 14, 2008

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Joshi et al.
Serial no.: 10/541,011
I.A. Filed: December 29, 2003
Title: ENHANCED GENERATION OF HYDROXYL RADICALS
Examiner: Edna Wong
Art Unit: 1795
Confirmation: 9060

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

Response

This response is in reply to the office action mailed on March 27, 2008. Applicant includes a petition for a two month extension of time, a RCE transmittal letter, a change of address document, and the appropriate fees have been electronically paid with the submission of this response.

Amendments

1. Please amend claim 1 as shown on page 4.
2. Please cancel claims 2, 17 and 18.

Claims Rejection – 35 USC § 103

3. Claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8-17 are rejected as being unpatentable over CS 274995 in combination with Parrish (US 6,793,903). Applicant respectfully traverses the examiner's rejection. In view of the full translation and the comments of the Examiner, the Applicant respectfully submits the following:

- CS 274995 (CS '995) relates to a photo-oxidation of complex-forming substances with oxygen in the presence of ions of iron, copper and nickel as photocatalysts, and optionally with the addition of hydrogen peroxide (page 2, lines 1-4). The mechanism of photodegradation of the complex-forming substances is not clearly disclosed in CS '995. An average person skilled in the art would expect the metal ions of iron, copper or nickel to replace the sodium ions, for example, in the complex Na-EDTA since the stability constant of the sodium complex ($\log K_1 = 1.7$) is by many orders lower than the stability constant of a Fe-, Cu- or Ni-EDTA ($\log K_1 = 14.2, 18.8$, and 18.6 , respectively). A person skilled in the art would also understand that according to the number of moles of EDTA and Fe^{2+} present in